

Pueblo Falls

by

Erik R. Segall

*Art is the result of reflecting, later, in tranquility,
Upon a very un-tranquil emotional experience.*

– Schopenhauer

*What's madness but nobility of soul
At odds with circumstance?*

– Theodore Roethke

*Surely all art is the result of one's having been in danger,
Of having gone through an experience all the way to the end,
Where no one can go any further.*

– Maria Rainer Rilke

CHAPTERS

Overture	01
One: Pfac	06
Two: The Sculptor	12
Three: The Potter	20
Four: The Poet	26
Five: Forte	36
Six: The Painter	45
Seven: The Dancer	51
Eight: Staccato	63
Nine: The Hunter	69
Ten: The Landlord	77
Eleven: Legato	85
Twelve: Pianissimo	94
Thirteen: Writer and the Weaver	101
Fourteen: Song of the Qanun	115
Fifteen: Intermezzo	127
Sixteen: Inflection	132
Seventeen: Allegro	141
Eighteen: Adagio	148
Nineteen: Rhythm	155
Twenty: Caesura	160
Twenty and One: Crescendo	171
Finalé	180

OVERTURE

The New York Times:

Patriot Act III passed yesterday, November 5th, 2019, by a consensus of both houses of Congress, the lone socialist representative from Vermont voicing the only objection. Madam President Ivanka Trump signed the bill before midnight and quickly departed for the Clinton Estate, recently seized by federal agents, in upstate New York before issuing a public statement.

Associated Press:

The nuclear explosion suspected in Iran last week, with fallout monitored in neighboring countries as diplomatic communications failed, has been verified by U.N. observers. Iran's Shi'a government has accused the Pakistani Sunni militant sect, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, with the detonation of a nuclear device. The total death toll from the attack cannot be confirmed but is suspected to be in the thousands.

Jerusalem Post:

In a surprise speech today at the Knesset, a minister from the ultra-Zionist sect of Lehi ha-Chadash has claimed responsibility for the sabotage at Iran's Parchin nuclear facility. Citing their revised Eighteen Principles of Rebirth, Minister Shalom said in a prepared statement, "This proves that Iran had successfully manufactured a weapon of nuclear potential. Our act of was a necessary step for the security of the Israeli state . . . and an important measure deemed mandatory before the construction of the Third Temple of Solomon can begin."

LA Times:

In other news, three dirty bombs exploded simultaneously in Paris today. An anonymous spokesman of Al Qaeda in the Alps issued a statement claiming the attacks were, "in retaliation for anti-Muslim policies issued by the French government." This brings the total to forty-three dirty bombs in European and Asian cities, including yesterday's detonation in Hong Kong by members of the

Fulang Gong. As of yet, Australia and the United States have been spared this type of atrocity.

Fox News:

Nearly all 20 million citizens of Cairo were evacuated today . . . A representative of the ruling Muslim Brotherhood party was observed yelling to reporters from his private felucca as he sailed upriver on the Nile, "Allah (God) has forsaken us, the world's gone mad."

USA Today:

In a surprise move yesterday, Congress amended the Patriot Act III, thereby giving the Department of Defense the ability to nationalize all privately and publically owned satellites. Quoting an unnamed Pentagon official, "This act ensures the safety of all Americans by limiting their vulnerability to cyber-hackers who are terrorizing the public's information database." Internet providers are at a loss to explain how connection services will be maintained.

Pueblo Falls Centennial Chief, from Leonard B. Jenkins' column Town Crier:

The only connection between Europe and America was severed this morning at 9:04am, Eastern Standard Time. The transatlantic cable, first laid in the 1850's between Newfoundland and Heart's Content in Ireland, was cut in a ceremony attended by delegates from both the Canadian and American governments. In the 19th century, the transatlantic cable was thought to be impossible and the mere mention of pumping electricity down copper lines through water created only laughter and cynicism. Some thought Dr. Whitehouse was merely attempting to develop a lazier method of fishing by electrifying the deep denizens of the sea. About ten years later, properly insulated cables were successfully laid, thus cutting the time it took a message to reach America from Europe from six weeks by sail to just a few minutes. In the 1950's, TAT-1, the first in a series of Transatlantic cables were strewn across the ocean floor, enabling a high capacity of stock brokers and lovers to send desperate missives. Nearly two centuries of ships splicing and unwinding thousands of miles of copper lines and fiber optic cables was undone this morning by the final act of the Canadian/American Committee on Information Wellness. Their final decree,

or what we in the newsroom are calling The Great Snipping, was a publicly supported tele-circumcision. Cameras were rolling this morning in St. John's as two workmen in orange vest with insulated chainsaws sliced through the numerous cables. An hour later, the main storage warehouse in which all the massive black, rubberized lines poured out of the vast blue ocean was demolished in a spectacular explosion. I would like to remind our readers that the first message between Queen Victoria and President Buchanan upon the initial transatlantic telegraph line was, "Glory to God in the highest; on earth, peace and good will toward men." The last public message from Madam President Clinton to Prime Minister Brown was brief. "Good luck and God Speed. We've got our own problems." Like a rebellious teenager, America had finally dissolved, and literally cut, the political bands to her British parents. And thereby the rest of the world.

Pueblo Falls Centennial Chief:

Several staff members were arrested yesterday by officials from the MoI, Ministry of the Interior. Citing a violation of Patriot Act III, the staff members were imprisoned for publishing news material originating or occurring beyond the State line. The Town Crier editorial column, no longer affiliated with the Centennial Chief, was part of a daily radio broadcast and thus also in violation of Three- Four (PAT III, Title 4, section iv, subsection B).

Any and all means of radio communication, as well as private telecommunication services, wireless services and wireless telegraphy, including but not limited to Amateur radio (known as ham radio), two-way radios, electromagnetic telegraph machines or other means of radiotelegraphy are strictly forbidden; with appropriate MoI agent entitled to either confiscate and/or dismantle or disassemble previous listed banned goods/services. Sentencing for apprehended individuals caught in the possession of restricted goods/services shall be imprisoned for no less than 10 years, but not exceeding 50 with a fine of \$500,000 for each infraction.

We are saddened by the loss of our news writers and pray for their speedy return from Leavenworth Penitentiary. Any donations offered for their defense must be cleared by the Department of Homeland Security.

Anarchist Annual, author unknown:

“People, rise up! We are Blind and Oppressed! Need proof? Welcome to the Age of LocaNet. The government hasn't blocked cell phone services, have they? They've just limited the amount of megabytes that can be transferred. Calls, texts and tweets all pass easily through the automated government filters, but have you noticed anything over 100 characters are restricted? Weird how land lines have come back into use, but now we only have local connections. But what the hell, we never liked talking to our distant relatives on the East Coast and our crazy relatives in the Northwest. Besides, Community Monitors, the neighborhood watch of the LocaNet, filter all reports through the Ministry of Information. Do you know who your CM is? Look out, he just might be your neighbor!

Ever notice how it's all just local news now? Yes, I know what you're saying, “It's because the world's gone crazy!” We don't know what's going on in neighboring cities unless we drive up there and with gas taxes at a record 250%, I can't remember the last time I left town. We have been reduced to a daily reporting consisting of crime beats and beauty pageants. After the passage of Three-Four, we've been reduced to signal lamps and smoke signals. State-run television antennas have stopped airing world news and national programs and instead broadcast only shows offered by PBS. But remember the old PBS with Mr. Rogers and the painter with a bushy afro? That entity was canceled under PATIII budgeting restraints and the new PBS was installed. These Public Brainwashing Shows have an agenda, don't be fooled! Instead of educational programs, we have been left to vote on what shows are transmitted each week. We once used voting machines to choose our political candidates. Now, the electronic ballots we submit every week consist of the season's television line-up. And guess what? Reality TV wins every season, in every local election. Wake up, people! Or else we'll be forever stuck watching, ‘Bay City Teens’, ‘Happy Hour in Gaysville’, ‘Smoky Mountain Rednecks’ and ‘Loud-mouthed City Jews’.

Beware of the upcoming Congressional bill which offers the American people yet a new amendment to PATIII, essentially an end to the Post Office Act of 1792. Have you noticed the mailboxes are disappearing? No longer will there exist a guarantee of the sanctity of personal correspondence by protecting messages from the prying eyes of government censors. Four marks of a great civilization are well-maintained roads, potable water for its citizens, curb-side trash service and reliable mail delivery. Domestic safety has replaced the need for communication, no longer deemed a necessity for democratic rule. Democracy, like the thumbs up in the Roman arena, has devolved into a contest for rating public entertainment. Long Live the Revolution!”

Pueblo Falls Weekly Centennial Chief:

The end of United States Postal Service was announced yesterday. Six years ago, Saturday service was halted followed by the cessation of Wednesday mail service. As of today, all parcel and non-digital mail will be received in community post office boxes. You will be required to show your regional identity card, proof of naturalization, age requirement certification, and blood donor card. Please be aware the local MoI post offices are only open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Pueblo Falls Monthly Centennial Chief:

Last month, Patriot Act III erased all funding for the National Endowment for the Arts. Each state is now required to provide an artist community in every city and town. For every 10,000 residents, each city will provide for one artist to live rent free with a small stipend for food and utilities. In exchange for free room and board, the artist must participate in "Rent Night" in which the art created will be donated for the betterment of the community. Mayor Christensen of Pueblo Falls protested at City Hall last night, "We are being coerced by the Federal Government to provide a home to these drudges of civilization, these twisted products of modernism, these leeches of humanity, these . . . artists." As our current population is approximately 80,000, a total of eight artists must be housed by tax-payer dollars. After much deliberation, members of the mayor's cabinet have decided to place the artists in the nearly abandoned neighborhood south of the river near the Tower and will be called the Pueblo Falls Artist Community. Oddly, the first two candidates of the newly formed PFAC will be recently released patients from the State Hospital.